

A Resolution

NO. 3232-07-2005

AUTHORIZING EMPLOYMENT OF OUTSIDE LEGAL COUNSEL FOR ASSISTANCE IN NEGOTIATION OF CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE WITH GTE SOUTHWEST d/b/a VERIZON SOUTHWEST

WHEREAS, GTE Southwest d/b/a Verizon Southwest ("Verizon") is a local telephone company that provides service in the far north sector of the City of Fort Worth ("City"); and

WHEREAS, Verizon wishes to provide cable television service through its current system and, in accordance with Title VI of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, has applied for a cable franchise from the City; and

WHEREAS, other local telephone companies, including SBC, are likely to add cable programming as a service offered through their systems; and

WHEREAS, cable franchises with local telephone companies involve numerous complex legal issues distinct and apart from those with traditional cable companies; and

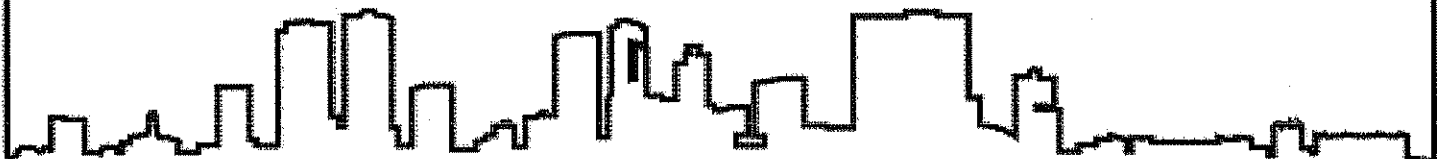
WHEREAS, because the cable franchise granted to Verizon will establish the basic franchise that the City will have with other local telephone companies that wish to provide cable television service through their systems, it is important that all issues be identified and negotiated at the outset;

WHEREAS, the law firm of Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett, L.L.P. has substantial expertise in the area of federal cable communications law and has provided outside cable counsel services to the City for at least 10 years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS:

I.

That the City Attorney is hereby authorized to retain the law firm of Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett, L.L.P. as outside counsel pursuant to Section 3, Chapter VI of the City Charter to assist the City Attorney in various matters concerning cable television franchises and regulations.



CITY OF FORT WORTH

II.

That, as far as practicable, the compensation to be paid to the law firm of Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett, L.L.P. shall not exceed a total amount of \$35,000.

AND IT IS SO RESOLVED.

Adopted this 5th day of July, 2005.

ATTEST:

By: Marty Hendrix
Marty Hendrix
City Secretary

APPROVED
CITY COUNCIL

JUL 5 2005

Marty Hendrix
City Secretary of the
City of Fort Worth, Texas



CITY OF FORT WORTH